AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims with a status identifier in parenthesis.

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A weft knitting machine capable of switching a ~~bringing~~ state of bringing a moving member for knitting which moves while being brought by at least one of front and rear carriages, and~~which,~~ while the carriages move ~~moving~~ along front and rear needle beds of the weft knitting machine, ~~let~~ knitting needles are arranged side by side in each of the needle beds to perform a knitting operation, the moving member for knitting ~~knitting~~ a fabric in cooperation with the knitting needles, comprising:

a rail that is disposed along the needle beds;

a stopping mechanism that is disposed at an end portion of the needle beds, and that can stop the moving member for knitting;

a moving member holding mechanism that can move back and forth on the rail, the stopping mechanism being capable of attaching the moving member for knitting to the moving member holding mechanism and detaching the moving member for knitting from the moving member holding mechanism when the moving member holding mechanism moves to a position of the stopping mechanism; and

a bringing state switching mechanism capable of switching between a state in which the moving member holding mechanism is brought by the carriage and a state in which the moving member holding mechanism is not brought.

2. (Currently Amended) The weft knitting machine of claim 1, wherein the bringing state switching mechanism is provided on each of the front and rear carriages, and the bringing state switching mechanisms can ~~make bringing~~ provide positions different from each other between the front and rear carriages.

3. (Currently Amended) The weft knitting machine of claim 1, wherein the bringing state switching mechanism includes:

a control member that is provided on either one of the moving member holding mechanism and the carriage, and that can control an actuation state between actuation and non-actuation,

a bringing member that is provided on the other one of the moving member holding mechanism and the carriage, and that can be brought at ~~bringing~~ positions that are different from each other in accordance with a direction in which the carriage travels when the control member is actuated, and cannot be brought when the control member is not actuated,

an operation bar that is provided along the rail, and that can be displaced in a direction different from a direction along the rail, and

a displacement driving mechanism for displacing the operation bar in the direction different from the direction along the rail, and

wherein the bringing state switching mechanism controls the actuation state of the control member in conjunction with a displacement of the operation bar in the direction different from the direction along the rail, and performs switching of the ~~bringing~~ positions of the moving member holding mechanism with respect to the carriage and switching to a state in which the moving member holding mechanism is not brought.

4. (Currently Amended) The weft knitting machine of claim 1, wherein the actuation state of the control member can be controlled such that the control member projects toward the bringing member in the actuation, and does not project toward the bringing member in the non-actuation, and the bringing member has a recess portion that abuts against the control member projecting in the actuation at ~~bringing~~ positions that are different from each other in accordance with a direction in which the carriage moves.

5. (Currently Amended) The weft knitting machine of claim 1, wherein the actuation state can be controlled such that the control member projects toward the bringing member in the actuation at ~~bringing~~ positions that are different from each other in accordance with a direction in which the carriage moves, and does not project toward the bringing member in the non-actuation, and the bringing member has a protrusion portion that abuts against the control member projecting in the actuation.